

## Message Text

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ORIGIN IO-13

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 AF-08 ARA-06 EA-07 EUR-12 NEA-10

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PM-04 H-02 L-03 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

OMB-01 TRSE-00 /107 R

DRAFTED BY IO/UNESCO;RDFORSTER;JU

APPROVED BY IO;DRTOUSSAINT

IO/UNESCO; RCHEATER

IO/ML - WKRIEBEL

ARA/LA/PLC - GMONSMA

IO/UNP - JLORENZ

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R 190357Z SEP 76

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO ALL AMERICAN REPUBLIC DIPLOMATIC POSTS

INFO AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

USCINCSO

XMT AMEMBASSY NASSAU

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 232308

NESCO

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: AORG, OCON, UNESCO

SUBJECT: SUPPORT FOR ISRAEL'S REQUEST FOR INCLUSION IN  
UNESCO EUROPEAN REGION

REF: STATE 224244

1. SUMMARY. ADDRESSEE POSTS REQUESTED TO APPROACH HOST  
GOVERNMENTS AT APPROPRIATE LEVEL AND ASK THAT THEIR DELE-  
GATIONS TO 19TH UNESCO GENERAL CONFERENCE (NAIROBI,  
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OCTOBER 26 - NOVEMBER 30, 1976) SUPPORT EXECUTIVE BOARD

RECOMMENDATION THAT GENERAL CONFERENCE BASE ITS ASSIGNMENT OF MEMBER STATES TO GEOGRAPHIC REGIONS ON THE WISHES OF THE MEMBERS OF THE REGION CONCERNED, AND THAT WHEN THIS PROCEDURE HAS BEEN ADOPTED, THEIR DELEGATIONS SUPPORT THE SPECIFIC RECOMMENDATIONS, INCLUDING THE ASSIGNMENT OF ISRAEL TO THE EUROPEAN REGION, MADE BY MEMBERS OF THE VARIOUS REGIONS. END SUMMARY.

2. IN 1974 THE 18TH GENERAL CONFERENCE (GC) OF UNESCO REJECTED ISRAEL'S REQUEST FOR ASSIGNMENT TO EUROPEAN REGION (WHICH COMPRISES BOTH WESTERN AND EASTERN EUROPEANS, AS WELL AS U. S. AND CANADA), LEAVING ISRAEL THE ONLY MEMBER THEN UNASSIGNED TO A REGIONAL GROUPING.(VOTE WAS 33-48 WITH 31 ABSTENTIONS AND 22 "ABSENT.") THIS POLITICALLY INSPIRED GESTURE WAS ONE OF GC'S ANTI-ISRAELI ACTIONS THAT TRIGGERED CONGRESSIONAL CUTOFF OF U. S. PAYMENTS TO

UNESCO. ALL MEMBERS VOTED ON ISRAEL, AS ON ALL REGIONAL ASSIGNMENTS, WITH NO SPECIAL CONSIDERATION FOR VIEWS OF REGION CONCERNED. ANTI-ISRAEL VOTE WAS SPEARHEADED BY ARAB AND MOSLEM STATES AND SUPPORTED BY USSR AND EASTERN EUROPEANS, EXCEPT ROMANIA, WHICH WAS "ABSENT." IF GC HAD FOLLOWED TRADITION OF LEAVING A LARGELY REGIONAL MATTER TO REGIONAL GROUPING ITSELF, THE SUPPORT OF GREAT MAJORITY OF WESTERN MEMBERS OF EUROPEAN REGION WOULD HAVE INSURED ISRAEL'S ADMISSION.

3. WITH 18TH GC ACTION IN MIND AND WITH DIRECTOR GENERAL M'BOW'S STRONG SUPPORT, 40-MEMBER UNESCO EXECUTIVE BOARD LAST FALL RECOMMENDED THAT 19TH GC, IN UPDATING REGIONAL ASSIGNMENTS, BE GUIDED BY VIEWS OF MEMBERS OF RELEVANT REGION. ( IN ADDITION TO ISRAEL, THREE NEW MEMBERS -- SURINAM, GRENADA AND SAN MARINO -- HAVE NOT YET BEEN ASSIGNED TO REGIONS.) VOTE IN BOARD WAS 25 (ARGENTINA, BRAZIL, CHILE, COLOMBIA, URUGUAY)-3 (EE'S) - 3 ABSTENTIONS, WITH 9 (ARABS/MOSLEMS) COUNTED "ABSENT." (BY TRADITION, JAMAICAN CHAIRMAN OF BOARD DID NOT PARTICIPATE IN VOTE.)

4. SUCCESS OF EXECUTIVE BOARD ACTION AIMED AT GIVING  
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MEMBERS OF REGION CONCERNED DECISIVE ROLE IN ASSIGNMENTS TO THAT REGION WILL DEPEND MAINLY ON WHETHER EE'S AND ARABS ARE PREPARED AT LEAST NOT TO ACTIVELY OPPOSE ISRAEL'S REQUEST TO BE ASSIGNED TO EUROPEAN REGION. AT SAME TIME, SINCE A FAVORABLE OUTCOME ON THIS ISSUE IS PREREQUISITE TO RESUMPTION OF U. S. PAYMENTS TO UNESCO AND RESOLUTION OF ORGANIZATION'S GROWING FINANCIAL CRISIS, DEPT. IS SEEKING SUPPORT FOR THE NEW PROCEDURE WHEREVER

THERE IS ANY CHANCE OF SUCCESS. PROSPECTS IN LATIN AMERICAN/CARIBBEAN REGION APPEAR ESPECIALLY GOOD, NOT ONLY IN LIGHT OF EXECUTIVE BOARD'S RECENT DECISION, WHICH WAS CLEARLY UNDERSTOOD TO BE FIRST STEP TOWARD REVERSING 18TH GC ACTION, BUT ALSO REGION'S OVERALL RECORD AT 18TH GC WHERE 14 ARA COUNTRIES SUPPORTED ISRAEL: BOLIVIA, CHILE, COSTA RICA, ECUADOR, EL SALVADOR, GUATEMALA, HAITI, HONDURAS, JAMAICA, NICARAGUA, PANAMA, PARAGUAY, URUGUAY, VENEZUELA. ONLY TWO OPPOSED: CUBA AND PERU. EIGHT WERE "ABSENT" OR ABSTAINED, AND SPECIAL EFFORTS SHOULD BE MADE TO INSURE THEIR SUPPORT FOR ISRAEL: ARGENTINA, BRAZIL, COLOMBIA, BARBADOS, DOMINICAN REPUBLIC, GUYANA, MEXICO, TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO. FIRST THREE JOINED WITH CHILE IN CO-SPONSORING EXECUTIVE BOARD RESOLUTION ADOPTED LAST FALL AND SHOULD PROVE ESPECIALLY REWARDING TARGETS.

5. GIVEN CRITICAL, PERHAPS DECISIVE IMPORTANCE OF THIS ISSUE TO FUTURE OF U. S. RELATIONS WITH UNESCO AS WELL AS OF ORGANIZATION ITSELF, DEPT. HOPES ALL HOST GOVERNMENTS WILL SUPPORT ADOPTION OF EXECUTIVE BOARD PROCEDURE TO GIVE REGIONS DETERMINING VOICE IN THEIR MEMBERSHIP AND WILL VOTE FOR ISRAEL'S INCLUSION IN EUROPEAN REGION. ADDRESSEE POSTS ARE REQUESTED TO TAKE EARLY OPPORTUNITY TO MAKE APPROPRIATE REPRESENTATIONS, UNDERSCORING GRAVITY OF PRESENT CRISIS IN U.S./UNESCO RELATIONS PRECIPITATED BY POLITICAL ACTS OF PREVIOUS GC. AT THEIR DISCRETION, IN LIGHT OF LOCAL CIRCUMSTANCES AS WELL AS HOST GOVERNMENT'S VOTING RECORD ON THIS ISSUE, POSTS SHOULD STRESS FOLLOWING POINTS:

(A) ISRAEL'S ASSIGNMENT TO EUROPEAN REGION WOULD NULLIFY ONE OF 18TH GC'S MOST CLEARLY POLITICAL ACTS DIRECTED AGAINST ISRAEL AND WOULD CONSTITUTE AN ESSENTIAL STEP  
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TOWARD RE-ESTABLISHING VIABLE BASIS FOR A FULL AND ACTIVE U. S. PRESENCE IN UNESCO, INCLUDING PAYMENT OF ASSESSMENTS.

(B) CONTINUED EXCLUSION OF ISRAEL FROM EUROPEAN REGION, OR ANY ADDITIONAL ANTI-ISRAELI ACTIONS, WOULD BE CERTAIN TO RESULT IN CONGRESS CONTINUING TO WITHHOLD FUNDS, PROLONGING UNESCO'S SERIOUS FINANCIAL PLIGHT, JEOPARDIZING U. S. PARTICIPATION IN UNESCO AND UNDERMINING NOT ONLY UNESCO BUT, IN BROADER SENSE, UN ITSELF.

(C) IT IS CLEARLY NOT IN UNESCO'S INTEREST -- OR IN INTEREST OF ITS NON-COMMUNIST MEMBERS -- TO HAVE THE U.S. LEAVE UNESCO, CREATING A VOID WHICH SOVIETS WILL BE TEMPTED TO EXPLOIT AND SEEK TO FILL.

(D) THERE IS REAL DANGER THAT OPPOSITION TO ISRAEL'S  
ASSIGNMENT TO EUROPEAN REGION COULD SERIOUSLY DIVIDE  
19TH GC, TO THE GREAT DISPLEASURE OF ALL THOSE MEMBERS  
(ESPECIALLY IN AFRICA AND OTHER PARTS OF THIRD WORLD)  
THAT ARE ANXIOUS TO SUPPORT DG M'BOW (FIRST BLACK AFRICAN  
TO HEAD A MAJOR UN AGENCY) AND MAKE THIS GC, THE FIRST  
TO BE HELD IN AFRICA, A SUCCESS.

6. PLEASE REPORT RESULTS ASAP TO DEPT. AND U. S. PERM DEL  
TO UNESCO. ROBINSON

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## Message Attributes

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